UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT OFFICE OF THE CLERK MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

GREGORY J. LEONARD, Clerk

Telephone:

ALBANY 31701 ATHENS 30601 COLUMBUS 31902 MACON 31202 THOMASVILLE 31792 VALDOSTA 31601

**MEMORANDUM** 

TO: All Counsel and *Pro Se* Parties

FROM: Gregory J. Leonard

DATE:

RE:

Civil Action Number

For your information, this district now has three full-time magistrate judges— CLAUDE W. HICKS JR., in Macon, RICHARD L. HODGE in Albany, and G. MALLON FAIRCLOTH in Columbus, Georgia. Full-time magistrate judges are authorized to exercise civil jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §636(c)(1) which provides that: "Upon the consent of the parties, a full-time United States magistrate...may conduct any or all proceedings in a jury or non-jury civil matter and order the entry of judgment in the case...."

Enclosed herewith is an ELECTION FORM which must be executed and returned to this office WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS of your receipt of this memorandum. This is necessary to enable the court to better schedule trials and other such hearings as may be appropriate. Attorneys representing more than one party must make clear on whose behalf they are signing.

> MAKE SURE ELECTIONS FORMS **ARE RETURNED WITHIN 15 DAYS!**

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

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VS.

Case Number

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## ELECTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. §636(c)

The undersigned, a party in the above-styled proceedings, or counsel authorized to so act, hereby makes the following election pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §636(c)(1) and (2):

**OPTION NO. 1:** I hereby WAIVE my right to trial and entry of judgment before a United States District Judge and CONSENT for a full-time United States Magistrate Judge for the Middle District of Georgia to conduct any and <u>all</u> proceedings in connection with this action, including, but not limited to, the trial of said case and the ordering of the entry of judgment herein by the magistrate judge; I further agree that any appeal from said judgment shall be taken <u>directly</u> to the Court of Appeals of the Eleventh Circuit in the same manner as an appeal from any other judgment of a district court; **OR**,

**OPTION NO. 2:** I do <u>not</u> waive trial and judgment before the United States District Judge and do <u>not</u> consent for a United States Magistrate Judge to hear and dispose of this case.

Dated this	day of	20	
		Attorney for	1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Attorneys executing this form <u>must</u> make it clear on whose behalf they are signing.